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Date: December 21, 2001

By: Jennifer Mahaney

DOCKET NO.: 55600.8003.US00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Soos, J.M, et al.

SERIAL NO: Not yet Assigned

FILED: Concurrent Herewith

FOR: ORALLY-ADMINISTERED INTERFERON-TAU COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS

EXAMINER: Unknown

ART UNIT: Unknown

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination of the above-noted application, amend the claims as follows.

In the Claims: Cancel claims 6, 7, and 10-19 without prejudice; replace claims 1-5, and 9 with the following rewritten claims; and add new claims 20-36 as follows:

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1. (Amended) In a method of treating a viral disease in a mammal responsive to treatment by ovine interferon-tau (IFN<sub>τ</sub>), an improvement comprising orally administering a therapeutically-effective amount of bovine IFN<sub>τ</sub> through oral ingestion.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein IFN<sub>τ</sub> is orally-administered at a dosage of greater than about  $1 \times 10^5$  units per day.